

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4, and 6-15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Friedman (US 5,499,292A).

By this amendment, independent claims 1 and 6-10 have been amended to more clearly set forth the present invention. In particular, claims 1 and 7-10 were amended to specifically point out that the private key/public key pair is generated in the digital camera. Claim 6 was similarly amended to point out that the private key is generated in the digital camera, and claim 10 was further amended to point out that the private key is stored in a memory in the digital camera.

Amended independent claims 1 and 6-10 are believed to be patentable over Friedman. Both in column 4, lines 40-46, and in column 5, lines 56-60, Friedman teaches that the digital camera includes a unique private key that is programmed or embedded within the camera's microprocessor. Friedman does not disclose or suggest that a private key is generated in the digital camera, as set forth in amended claims 1 and 6-10.

With the digital camera taught by Friedman, the manufacturer of the digital camera may have knowledge of the private key, as disclosed in column 4, lines 38-40. When the private key is generated in a digital camera in accordance with the present invention, the private key is not known at all, even by the manufacturer, and thus, the system is more secure. Accordingly, amended claims 1 and 6-10 are believed to be patentable over Friedman.

Claims 2 and 4 depend on amended claim 1, and claims 11-15 depend on amended claim 10. Accordingly, claims 2, 4, and 11-15 are also believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claims 1 and 10.

Claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 UC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman as applied to claims 1, 2, and 4 above, and further in view of Numata et al. (US 6,654,062B1).

Claims 3 and 5 depend on amended claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3 and 5 are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claim 1.



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It is believed that the claims in the application are allowable over the prior art and such allowance is respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call to attend to these matters.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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